

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /039 W

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R 061815Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2091

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMCONSUL RECIFE UNN

AMCONSUL BELEM UNN

AMCONSUL SALVADOR UNN

AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RIO DE JANEIRO 0411

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, BR

SUBJECT: METALWORKER'S ELECTION

1. ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCES WON A SIGNIFICANT VICTORY IN AN IMPORTANT UNION ELECTION HELD ON JANUARY 29. WITH MORE THAN 7,500 VOTES TABULATED, ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCES HAVE CAPTURED CONTROL OF THE RIO DE JANEIRO METALWORKER'S UNION, POLLING APPROXIMATELY 56 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL. THE UNION, WHICH HAS A LONG HISTORY OF COMMUNIST INFILTRATION, HAD BEEN UNDER GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION FOR APPROXIMATELY A YEAR.

2. THE VICTORIOUS SLATE WAS HEADED BY A RELATIVE UNKNOWN, ADALBERTO DE OLIVEIRA. FURTHER, THE UNION'S PRESIDENT AT THE TIME OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERVENTION, PIERRE FRANCOIS COPPIETERS, WAS ELECTED AN EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER, OVERCOMING OPEN OPPOSITION BY REGIONAL LABOR DELEGATE LUIZ CARLOS BRITO.

3. COMMENT: THE METALWORKERS HAVE JURISDICTION OVER
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ALL METAL, MACHINE, AUTOMOBILE AND ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE

WORKERS IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND THE OUTLYING SUBURBS.
IMPORTANT FACTORIES WHICH FALL UNDER ITS JURISDICTION
ARE THE FABRICA NACIONAL DOS MOTORES, GENERAL ELECTRIC,
AND WESTINGHOUSE. THE UNION HEADQUARTERS GAINED
CONSIDERABLE NOTORIETY DURING THE 1964 REVOLUTION
WHEN IT WAS THE SCENE OF MUTINOUS MEETINGS OF THE SAILOR'S
ASSOCIATION. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE DOUBT AS TO
WHETHER OR NOT THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALLOW THE NEW
EXECUTIVE BOARD TO TAKE OFFICE. THE DEFEATED PRO-
GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE, JOSE FERNANDES, HOWEVER, HAS
ACKNOWLEDGED DEFEAT AND SAID HE WILL NOT CHALLENGE THE
IMPRESSIVE OPPOSITION VICTORY.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

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